Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 EB-08 USIA-06 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 IGA-02 SP-02 /048 W

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R 010615Z MAR 77 FM AMEMBASSY KABUL TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1603 INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

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ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: FAO, AF

SUBJ: FAO TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM

REF: A. STATE 034398 B. ROME 2688

1. FAO TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM (TCP) IS CURRENTLY BEING USED IN AFGHANISTAN TO FINANCE SMALL (\$16,000) PILOT PROJECT IN DISSEMINATION OF AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION THROUGH RADIO BROADCASTING AND CASSETTE TAPES WHICH EXTENSION AGENTS DISTRIBUTE TO KEY AGRICULTURAL OR VILLAGE OFFICIALS IN RURAL AREAS. SOME \$10,000 OF TOTAL IS BEING USED TO SUPPORT ESTABLISHMENT OF RECORDING STUDIO IN THE AFGHAN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND \$6,000 TO SUPPORT PURCHASE OF CASSETTES, RECORDERS, AND CASSETTE PREPARATION.

2. THREE OTHER PROJECTS ARE UNDER CONSIDRATION AS POSSIBLY APPROPRIATE FOR TCP ASSISTANCE: (A) SUPPORT OF START-UP PREPARATIONS FOR NEW AFGHAN SEED COMPANY PROJECT FOUNDED BY ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (APPROXIMATELY \$20,000); (B) ASSISTANCE IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PREPARATION AND START-UP OF A MILK PLANT IN KABUL, EXTERNAL DONOR NOT YET ESTABLISHED BUT LIKELY TO BE NETHERLANDS OR ONE OF THE SCANDANAVIAN COUNTRIES (APPROXIMATELY \$200,000); AND (C) PROVISION OF ONE OR TWO FORESTRY ADVISORS TO ASSITA CENTAL GOVERNMENT IN SETTING UP A VISABLE FORESTRY PROGRAM.

3. THERE HAVE BEEN NO PROBLEMS OF DUPLICATION OR COORDINATION OF EFFORT BETWEEN TCP AND REGULAR UNDP PROJECT ASSISTANCE, AND LOCAL FAO RESREP APPEARS TO BE HEWING SCRUPULOUSLY TO GUIDELINES FOR TCP PUBLISHED BY FAO DIRECTOR GENERAL, E.G., NO "BAILING OUT" OF REGULAR PROJECTS WHICH ARE IN TROUBLE, OR "COMPETING" WITH UNDP PROGRAM. LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND UN AGENCIES, INCLUDING FAO RESREP, SEEM TO FIND THE TCP A USEFUL, FLEXIBLE TOOL FOR FILLING GAPS NOT COVERED BY LARGE PROJECT ASSITANCE AND IN RESPONDING TO SHORT-TERM, SMALL-CALE TECHNICAL ASSITANCE NEEDS WHICH OFTEN ARE UNANTICIPATED. ELIOT

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a

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